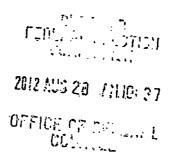
1825 Eye Street NW | Washington, DC 20006-5403
TEL (202) 420-2200 | FAX (202) 420-2201 | dicksteinshapiro.com



August 27, 2012

### **CONFIDENTIAL**

### Via Hand Delivery

Jeff Jordan
Supervisory Attorney, CELA
Office of the General Counsel
Federal Election Commission
999 E Street, NW
Washington, DC 20463

Re: Matter Under Review 6601

Dear Mr. Jordan:

#### Introduction

This is in response to the complaint filed by James Miller on behalf of Congressman Cliff Stearns alleging that the Steve Oelrich campaign (Oelrich for Congress and its treasurer, Jacqueline Schall) violated the disclaimer and corporate contribution provisions of the FEC's regulations. For the reasons set forth herein, the complaint should be dismissed with no action taken against Oelrich for Congress and its treasurer.

This matter relates to certain radio advertising run by Florida State Senator Oelrich thanking his Senate constituents for the honor of having represented them for several years. This practice is specifically authorized in Florida's election statutes. The radio ad in question only referenced state-level matters that the Senator had been involved with and was directed only to persons in his State Senate geographical area. There were no references to a federal candidacy or election. The radio ad should not be deemed an activity that triggers any federal election requirements whatsoever.

### Factual Background

The election scene in Florida this cycle has been very unusual in that many political figures were left in limbo for an extraordinarily long time waiting for the redistricting lines to be clear enough to make decisions about whether to run for particular offices. Sen. Oelrich found himself in this position throughout the 2011 and 2012 timeframe. Though he had expressed an interest in running for the U.S. House in December of 2011 (see Attachment 1), and even filed as a federal

Jeff Jordan August 27, 2012 Page 2

candidate in January of 2012 (see Attachment 2), he could not know whether the congressional district lines were going to be favorable for him running for Congress even as late as the deadline for filing for office, June 8, 2012. It was then, though, that he decided with certainty that he would run for the newly drawn 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District and, as a result, it was then that he withdrew as a candidate for re-election as a State Senator (see Attachment 5).

Up until the June 8 filing date, Sen. Oelrich maintained his State-level campaign committee (see Attachment 6), and had made no announcements renouncing all possibility of seeking re-election as a State Senator. On the filing date, the balance in his State-level committee was over \$43,000.

Florida has a statute in place that specifically authorizes a State Senator who withdraws his candidacy or is eliminated as a candidate (which technically describes the situation where Sen. Oelrich declined to file for State Senate re-election) to expend funds remaining in his campaign account to "[p]urchase 'thank you' advertising for up to 75 days after he or she withdraws, becomes unopposed, or is eliminated or elected." Fla. Stat. Title IX, § 106.11(5)(a). Under the

\* \* \* \*

- (5) A candidate who withdraws his or her candidacy, becomes an unopposed candidate, or is eliminated as a candidate or elected to office may expend funds from the campaign account to:
- (a) Purchase "thank you" advertising for up to 75 days after he or she withdraws, becomes unopposed, or is eliminated or elected.
- (b) Pay for items which were obligated before he or she withdrew, became unopposed, or was eliminated or elected.
- (c) Pay for expenditures necessary to close down the campaign office and to prepare final campaign reports.
- (d) Dispose of surplus funds as provided in s. 106.141."

While most observers could be fairly confident that the congressional district lines were fairly "settled" when the U.S. Department of Justice indicated at the end of April of 2012 that it would not oppose the lines that had emerged as of then (see Attachment 3), there still were active cases in litigation trying to overturn the congressional district lines. Indeed, even at the filing deadline on June 8, 2012, this litigation still loomed, leaving the prospect that the entire congressional district line situation would be significantly scrambled at the last minute (see Attachment 4).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> "106.11 Expenses of and expenditures by candidates and political committees. Each candidate and each political committee which designates a primary campaign depository pursuant to s. 106.021(1) shall make expenditures from funds on deposit in such primary campaign depository only in the following manner, with the exception of expenditures made from petty cash funds provided by s. 106.12:

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terms of this statute, Sen. Oelrich was fully authorized to expend his remaining state-committee balance on a "thank you" ad like the one involved in this matter.

The Florida Division of Elections for many years has clarified that "withdrawal" (the term used in § 106.11(5)) occurs on the date such candidate does not file qualification papers unless such candidate files a written statement under oath withdrawing.<sup>3</sup> Thus, under the statute, Sen. Oelrich had 75 days from June 8 (the qualification deadline) to run "thank you' advertising," i.e., until August 22.

It took a reasonable amount of time to decide to run such an ad and to produce it, but the ad ran only within the permitted time frame (first appearing on June 25). The ad clearly was a "thank you" ad.<sup>4</sup> The legislative actions noted in the "thank you" ad are all focused on specific matters

This is Steve Oelrich. I want to thank the citizens of North Central Florida for allowing me to serve and represent you - first as Sheriff and then as your State Senator.

Thank you for those who supported us in our challenge to successfully balance the state budget every year.

Our state's education system, including the University of Florida, should not have to suffer financially in order to pay for earmarks or un-necessary pet projects.

Thanks for offering your prayers as we fought to curb late term abortions and prevent the state from spending tax dollars to fund abortions.

We passed a new law mandating drug testing for welfare recipients. And we moved legislation protecting your right to bear arms in the State of Florida against intrusive federal gun regulations.

We also passed legislation helping organ donors and those who receive the gift of life.

I'm State Senator Steve Oelrich. My family and I thank you for placing your trust in me. God Bless you, your family, the great state of Florida and the United States of America.

Political advertisement paid for and approved by Steve Oelrich, Republican, State Senate, District 7. [footnote continues on next page]

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> See DE 78-28 (July 25, 1978), available at Florida Division of Elections website (<a href="http://election.dos.state.fl.us/opinions/TOC\_Opinions.shtml">http://election.dos.state.fl.us/opinions/TOC\_Opinions.shtml</a>) ("In the event a candidate does not notify the division of his/her withdrawal prior to the close of qualifying and such person failed to file qualification papers, the division shall consider the candidate to have withdrawn as of the final day on which to qualify.").

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> The radio ad text was as follows:

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Sen. Oelrich worked on with constituents during his Senate career. There are no references to his candidacy for federal office or to federal legislative or executive branch issues. It ran only on stations that focus on Sen. Oelrich's Senate district geographical area, not the entire 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District where he was seeking election.<sup>5</sup>

### <u>Analysis</u>

The Commission has demonstrated several times over the years that a common-sense distinction exists between State officeholder messaging and messaging that should be deemed in connection with a federal election. Where the facts and circumstances indicate that a State officeholder's messaging is focused on State-level matters, with no references to federal candidacy or issues,

Before the ad ran initially, the State-level committee contacted the Florida Division of Elections to determine if a disclaimer should include a reference to District 14 or District 7, and was advised on June 22 that no disclaimer was required at all. (Note that Fla. Stat. Title IX, § 106.143, in relevant part, only reaches messaging before or on the day of an election by a "candidate.") After the complainant expressed concern about the lack of disclaimer and similar questions arose from the radio station perspective, the State-level committee decided to add: "Political advertisement paid for and approved by Steve Oelrich, Republican, State Senate, District 7."

<sup>5</sup> Senator Oelrich's Senate district before the 2012 redistricting process was District 14 (Alachua, Union, Bradford, and Gilchrist Counties, with only part of Columbia and Marion Counties and two other counties), but it essentially became District 7 after the redistricting process (hence the reference in the ad to District 7). Compare

http://www.flsenate.gov/usercontent/session/redistricting/OverUnder2010\_Sen.pdf (pre-2012 district map) with

http://www.flsenate.gov/PublishedContent/SESSION/HOME/REDISTRICTING2012/PUBLICC OMMENTS/s016s9030\_35x42L.pdf (2012 district map). However, the new 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District was much larger, encompassing all or large parts of 13 counties: Hamilton, Madison, Suwannee, Columbia, Lafayette, Dixie, Gilchrist, Union, Bradford, Levy, Marion, Clay, and Alachua Counties. See

http://www.flsenate.gov/PublishedContent/SESSION/HOME/REDISTRICTING2012/PUBLICC OMMENTS/h000c9047 35x42L.pdf. The radio ads ran on stations WSKY (Gainesville/Ocala, Alachua and Marion Counties), WKTK (same), WCJX (Lake City, Columbia County), WQLC (Watertown, Columbia County), and WJTK (Lake City, Columbia County) – all within the core of Sen. Oelrich's Senate District (District 14 most of which became District 7).

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the Commission has declined to apply the various rules designed to assure that certain federally impermissible sources of funding are not used.<sup>6</sup>

In 2005, the Commission approved the recommendation of the General Counsel to <u>not</u> treat certain newspaper and radio advertisements paid for by State Senator Virginia Foxx's State-level committee as federal election messaging, even though she was an active candidate for federal office at the time. See MUR 5424 First General Counsel's Report (Jan. 31, 2005), pp. 6-7. The General Counsel and the Commission noted that the ads "merely identify Ms. Foxx as state senator for North Carolina's 45<sup>th</sup> District," and that "[t]here is no mention of the congressional campaign or any of the opposing candidates." Also noted was the fact that the areas where the advertising was distributed "were part of the geographic area covered by Ms. Foxx's 45<sup>th</sup> senatorial district. The Commission thus declined to apply the restrictions at 2 U.S.C. § 441i(e) or 110.3(d).

Similarly, in 2004, the Commission approved the recommendation of the General Counsel to not treat certain radio advertisements paid for by the State-level committee of State Senator Robert Welch as federal election messaging, even though they ran just after he had become a federal candidate. See MUR 5387 First General Counsel's Report (Dec. 7, 2004), pp. 8-13. The legal analysis traversed the nuances of 2 U.S.C. § 441i(e) and (f), but noted their inapplicability due to the following: (1) the ads do not identify Welch as a federal candidate or refer to his or his opponent's federal campaign; (2) the content of the ad and referenced website "does not clearly promote or support Welch as a [U.S.] Senate candidate, or attack or oppose any of his opponents" [emphasis added]; (3) there is no precedent supporting the proposition that mere "increasing Welch's name recognition" is "promotion" of a federal candidate; and (4) the ad was targeted to areas that did not correspond to the entire geographical area of the federal office sought. Based on the noted factors, the Commission declined to apply the restrictions at 2 U.S.C. § 441i.<sup>7</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> As the Commission knows, the various provisions centering around this basic restriction include: 2 U.S.C. § 441b(a) (candidate prohibited from accepting direct or indirect contributions from corporations in connection with federal election); 2 U.S.C. § 441i(e) (federal candidate prohibited from spending funds from corporations in connection with federal or non-federal election); 2 U.S.C. § 441i(f) (State or local candidate or officeholder prohibited from paying for messaging promoting, supporting, attacking, or opposing a federal candidate with corporate funds); and 11 C.F.R. § 110.3(d) (non-federal candidate committee funds may not be transferred to federal candidate account).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> It can be argued that the Commission's analysis should have been much simpler. Congress included in the statute clear language indicating that someone who happens to be a federal candidate, but who "is or was also a candidate for a State or local office" [emphasis added] may

Jeff Jordan August 27, 2012 Page 6

The precedent established in the two MURs just cited should lead the Commission to reach the same conclusion here. The ad in question did not make reference to Sen. Oelrich's congressional candidacy or the congressional race. There was no <u>clear</u> promotion of Sen. Oelrich since the context of the ad clearly was a mere "thank you" to his State Senate constituents and the topics mentioned all related to his past State legislative efforts on which he and his constituents had worked. The ad's distribution was limited to the area of his State Senate representation, not the much larger 3<sup>rd</sup> Congressional District.

In addition, this case is unique because there is a State statute that specifically authorizes a State senator who has withdrawn from a re-election opportunity to issue "thank you" advertising to his constituents—exactly what was done here. In Florida, in other words, there is an understanding and expectation that persons in the position of Sen. Oelrich can and will use leftover State-committee funds to pay for such messages to constituents, and to do so within a specified short time-frame after withdrawal.

In view of the foregoing, the Commission should dismiss the complainant's allegation that the messaging here involved was in connection with a federal election and that there was some sort of impermissible use of corporate funds.

As for the complainant's allegation that the ad should have had a federal disclaimer included, the Commission should dismiss this allegation as well. Enforcement of the federal disclaimer requirement in these circumstances would lead to an unjust result. The "thank you" ad in question clearly is tied to Sen. Oelrich's State Senate legislative functions and his State officeholder capacity, is authorized by State law, and steered clear of any references to federal candidacy or campaigns. The disclaimer placed on the ad was not even required by Florida law (according to the Florida Division of Elections), yet it was voluntarily added to accommodate some radio stations and to make it clear that the Senator was responsible for the ad in his capacity as a State Senator. Accordingly, pursuing enforcement action for failure to include additional federal disclaimer language would be excessive and inappropriate.

spend corporate funds if the spending "is permitted under State law and refers only to such State or local candidate, or to any other candidate for the State or local office sought by such candidate, or both." 2 U.S.C. § 441i(e)(2). The "thank you" spending here involved was expressly allowed by State law, and the only person referenced, Sen. Oelrich, indeed was a candidate for State Senate re-election right up to June 8, 2012.

It is not clear how the disclaimer rule's scope at 11 C.F.R. § 110.11(a) even reaches this situation. The ad was not issued by a federal political committee; it contained no express advocacy; and the Commission's regulations at 11 C.F.R. § 100.29(c)(5) indicate that ads paid for by a State-level candidate committee without promoting or opposing a federal candidate should be exempt from the "electioneering communication" definition.

Jeff Jordan August 27, 2012 Page 7

In conclusion, Oelrich for Congress and its treasurer, Jacqueline Schall, respectfully request that the Commission dismiss this matter and close the file.<sup>9</sup>

Sincerely,

Scott E. Thomas

ST/kb

### Declaration and Verification by Senator Steve Oelrich

I hereby declare and verify under penalty of perjury that the foregoing recitation of facts and law is true and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> For the Commission's information, the Oelrich for Congress campaign has been made aware that the Stearns for Congress campaign will be sending a letter to the Commission seeking dismissal of the allegations in this MUR. The Oelrich for Congress campaign likewise will be seeking dismissal of the allegations it made against the Stearns campaign in what has been numbered MUR 6610. Using Commission and campaign resources to further the "dueling complaints" would be unnecessary and unwise, under the circumstances.

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### State Sen. Oelrich plans run for Congress

The Gainesville Sun reports:

State Sen. Steve Oelrich announced Thursday that he will run for Congress if the preliminary changes to congressional districts hold up, giving North Central Florida — and Oelrich's potential voter base — a more cohesive congressional district.

The Cross Creek Republican and former Alachua County sheriff said if Rep. Cliff Stearns, R-Ocala, decides to run for the new congressional seat in District 26, which includes Stearns' hometown, then Oelrich would run for Stearns' current seat representing District 6.

In an interview, Oelrich did not rule out the potential of a primary with an incumbent should Stearns want to stay in the District 6 race.

However, Oelrich said: "My intention is not to really run against an incumbent such as Rep. Stearns. I think he does a good job for North Central Florida, and he is a conservative guy."

Oelrich said the reworked district contains 63 percent of his current constituents in Florida Senate District 14.

"It really lines up more with my current senatorial district than it	
	<u>vs-updates)</u> ,
does Rep. Stearns' congressional district," Oelrich said.	•

To read more click here

(http://www.gainesville.com/article/20111201/ARTICLES/111209956).

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F.

NEWS FEED

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PRESS RELEASE

Contact: Kristine Zooberg | (813) 245-4007 | kristine@steveoelrich.com

### **Oelrich Files to Run for Congress**

State Senator Steve Oelrich (R-Gainesville) filed paperwork today to run for the U.S. House of Representatives in the proposed new Congressional seat drawn in North Central Florida. This seat is one of two new seats drawn in Florida after redistricting due to growth since the latest census.

"In Congress, I will ask the tough questions, cast the hard votes, and level with the voters about what is really going on in Washington," Oelrich said. "Washington politicians have a spending addiction, and it's time we kick that habit."

From Madison County down to Marion County, the proposed new Congressional District represents all or parts of thirteen counties in North Central Florida and is anchored out of Gainesville in Alachua County. The Florida House of Representatives has numbered this seat the new Congressional District 3; the Florida State Senate has numbered the similar proposed seat as Congressional District 6.

"If elected to Congress, my top priorities will be job creation, along with a drastic overhaul and cutback in government spending," Oelrich stated.

Oelrich's current State Senate district makes up over 63% of the voters

\*\*BACK TO NEWS (/news)
in the new Congressional District, including seven different counties
that lie directly in his State Senate seat (FL SD 14). The largest of
these seven counties, Alachua County, is where Oelrich lives. He was
elected as the first Republican Sheriff in Alachua County since
Reconstruction – and was subsequently reelected Sheriff three more
times serving 14 years. Oelrich has now been elected twice by the
voters in Alachua, Marion, Columbia, Gilchrist, Levy, Putnam, Union,
and Bradford Counties as their State Senator in a predominantly
Democratic seat.

"I know this District well," Oelrich added. "I will campaign in every county, city, and community throughout North Central Florida, carrying a message of tough, conservative fiscal responsibility."

Paperwork to run for Congress was filed with the Federal Elections Commission (F.E.C.) today by Steve Oelrich.

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### **Itaninahay** \* Know it now.

### U.S. Justice Department approves redrawn Florida redistricting maps

By Mary Ellen Klas, Times/Herald Tallahassee Bureau

Published Monday April 30, 2012

TALLAHASSEE — State officials on Monday cleared the final two hurdles needed to put their new redistricting maps into effect, setting the stage for candidates to qualify for office using the state's new political boundaries.

In a one-page letter to state officials, the U.S. Department of Justice said the state House, Senate and congressional maps do not appear to violate the federal Voting Rights Act. In a separate ruling, a trial court judge rejected the Democrats' argument that the congressional map should be put on hold while it is being litigated in Leon County Circuit Court.

The two decisions dealt a one-two punch to Democratic Party efforts to halt the redistricting maps drawn by the Republicanled Legislature. But they also mean that candidates for 27 congressional seats, 40 state Senate districts and 120 state House seats can now rely on the new boundaries to file their election papers during qualification week June 4-8.

The new maps were drawn according to a new set of anti-gerrymandering guidelines approved by voters in 2010. Despite the uncharted waters in applying the new Fair Districts rules, legislators finished the job earlier than usual.

"Reaching this important milestone earlier than in prior redistricting cycles is a testament to the hard work of stakeholders," said Sen. Don Gaetz, R-Niceville, chairman of the Senate redistricting committee in a letter to supervisors of elections on Monday.

"Going forward, we will work with the Department of State and supervisors of elections as the new maps are implemented," said Rep. Will Weatherford, R-Wesley Chapel, the House redistricting chairman. "Floridians should feel confident knowing their county election officials have plenty of time to prepare for the upcoming elections."

While the maps are complete, the litigation process is not.

The Florida Democratic Party and a coalition of voter groups are challenging the constitutionality of the congressional map in Leon County, claiming that it not only violates the new ban against protecting incumbents and political parties but unfairly packs black and Hispanic voters into districts to give Republicans an electoral advantage.

The groups asked the court to stop the maps from taking effect this election cycle until a trial is held, but 2nd Circuit Court Judge Terry Lewis on Monday rejected their claims.

In a 20-page opinion, Lewis said he understands their concern "that if elections go forward under what is later determined to be an unconstitutional redistricting plan, Florida citizens will have been denied their right to have meaningful participation in the election of their representatives." But, he added, the opponent did not prove their right to an injunction.

Lewis said that absent a determination that the map is unconstitutional, "I do not have the authority to replace it with another map while the case is pending."

If he put the 2012 map on hold, the result would be that the 2002 map would remain in effect — a map, he said, that "was admittedly drawn to favor the Republican Party and incumbents."

Lewis rejected the plaintiffs arguments that several districts, from South Florida to Tampa Bay, violate the constitution. He said, however, there is sufficient data surrounding the sprawling North Florida-based district now held by Democratic Rep. Corrine Brown of Jacksonville to question "whether it is possible to design a more compact district in northeast Florida that would not diminish the ability of black voters to elect a candidate of their choice."

U.S. Assistant Attorney Thomas Perez also hinted that future litigation is possible. He noted that the federal government's approval of the maps, known as "pre-clearance," does not bar future legal challenges on the grounds that they violate the federal Voting Rights Act.

Florida Democratic Party executive director Scott Arceneaux said Democrats are considering additional lawsuits. He said they "remain concerned about elements of the map and we will continue to evaluate our legal options moving forward."

Florida is required to have its redistricting maps receive approval from the Justice Department's Civil Rights Division because five counties have a history of racial discrimination in elections. The federal government clears the maps, and all other voting law changes, to determine if voting rights are preserved for minorities in Hillsborough, Monroe, Collier, Hendry and Hardee counties.

Mary Ellen Klas can be reached at meklas@MiamiHerald.com and on Twitter @MaryEllenKlas.

### See the maps

For a complete look at Florida's redistricting plans, go to tampabay.com/redistricting.

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### Florida lawmakers seek to block redistricting testimony

Staff reports and wire services

Posted: 6:56 p.m. Thursday, Aug. 23, 2012

TALLAHASSEE — Republican leaders have quietly asked a Leon County judge to shield lawmakers and their aides from having to testify during a <u>trial to determine</u> whether the state's congressional redistricting plan runs afoul of new standards tor drawing the state's political maps.

In a motion filed last month and set to be heard Sept. 5, lawyers for the House and Senate said Circuit Court Judge Terry Lewis should block attempts by those challenging the congressional maps to take depositions from lawmakers and staff members and to review potential redistricting proposals that were never actually filed.

Lewis is weighing a challenge to the maps under the Fair Districts amendments, which bar the consideration of political factors in redistricting proposals. Voters approved the amendments in 2010, making this redistricting cycle the first to apply the new rules.

A coalition of voting-rights organizations and a group of voters backed by the Florida Democratic Party filed suit after the districts were approved by the GOP-dominated Legislature, saying they violated the Fair Districts standards.

According to the motion, the voting rights organizations have already asked to depose Senate Majority Leader Andy Gardiner, R-Orlando, and two legislative staffers.

#### **TALLAHASSEE**

#### Workers comp increase sought

Florida workers compensation insurance rates should increase by an average 6.1 percent in 2013, according to a proposal filed Thursday with the state Office of Insurance Regulation.

The increase would be smaller than an 8.9 percent hike that insurance regulators approved for 2012. But the proposal continues to show that a 2003 overhaul of the workers-compensation system has stopped creating additional savings for employers.

That overhaul led to cumulative rate decreases of 64.7 percent, according to the National Council on Compensation Insurance, which submits the annual rate proposal to the state. "It has become more evident in recent years that the significant ongoing experience improvements which occurred after the 2003 reform have ended and that the system is operating from a new baseline reflecting the total cumulative effects of the reform," the council said in an overview. The Office of Insurance Regulation will hold a hearing on the rate proposal this fall.

# **SUNSHINE**STATE NEWS

Published on Sunshine State News (http://www.sunshinestatenews.com)

# Latvala, Oelrich, Norman Are In as Qualifying Reaches Final Day

By: Jim Turner | Posted June 8, 2012 3:55 AM



Jack Latvala, Jim Norman and Steve OlerichHide

A trio of mini-sagas has been concluded as state senators Jack Latvala, R-Clearwater, Steve Oelrich, R-Gainesville, and Jim Norman, R-Tampa, all filed their qualifying paperwork.

Friday is the final day for candidates to qualify, with paperwork due by noon with the state Division of Elections.

"Flling for legislative office should be allowed on the local level. I think only

filing in Tallahassee is sponsored by FedEx," Sen. Chris Smith, D-Fort Lauderdale, joked on Twitter before qualifying on Thursday.

By Thursday afternoon, 384 people -- 223 Republicans and 160 Democrats -- had qualified to appear on the ballot as congressional or legislative candidates in Florida.

Still, with all the candidates, without additional changes, 18 of Florida's 40 Senate seats -- 12 Republican and six Democrat -- could be won Friday without opposition and 43 of the 120 House seats -- 30 GOP, 13 Democrat.

View Florida House candidates here.

View Florida Senate candidates here.

Without judging the level of opposition, among Florida's congressional district only U.S. Rep. Dennis Ross, R-Lakeland, may be re-elected without a primary or general election challenge.

#### **Around the State**

St. Petersburg and Tampa come to terms on RNC security spending

- Records show George Zimmerman got D's in criminal justice classes
- · With Democrat's exit, Republicans alone will pick District 17 senator
- Lobbyists' money fuels bitter state Senate battle in Hillsborough
- <u>U.S. Justice Department demands voter-purge information from Florida counties</u>
- Bill Young faces first GOP opponents in 42 years
- State's 1st Microsoft Store opens next week at Florida Mall
- · Obama to blanket Tampa airwayes for convention
- Tampa's proposed \$804M budget includes no layoffs or property tax increase
- · Aldi grocers to fill 200 jobs in Florida

### View U.S. Senate candidates here.

### View U.S. House candidates here.

Another 30 are official write-in candidates, of which 12 are the only challengers to major party candidates from a single party, effectively closing open primaries.

The write-in candidates currently close three Democratic primaries, one in the state House and two in the Senate.

For the GOP, write-in candidates close nine primaries, of which six are in the state House, two in the Senate and one congressional race, the District 4 seat held by incumbent Ander Crenshaw, R-Jacksonville.

In three closely watched races:

Latvala qualified shortly after tweeting Wednesday that he would remain in his North Pinellas home District 20 seat instead of taking on Rep. Jeff Brandes, R-St. Petersburg in District 22.

Brandes already has competition coming from fellow House member Jim Frishe, R-St. Petersburg. Frishe and Latvala had considered switching contests, which would have required both to move.

Oelrich, first elected to the Senate in 2006, as expected qualified to take on U.S. Rep. Cliff Stearns, R-Ocala, in a crowded primary field that includes Clay County Clerk of Courts James Jett and large-animal veterinarian Ted Yoho.

Despite word that efforts were under way to keep him from running, Sen. Jim Norman, R-Tampa, has qualified to run. Norman joins what is expected to be an expensive primary battle against House Speaker Pro Tempore John Legg, R-Port Richey.

Legg entered the second quarter of the year with more than \$120,000 in the bank. Norman, who has raised \$177,820 since the start of 2011, had a little more than \$104,000 on hand as the second quarter began.

Sources within the district had told Sunshine State News that some in the GOP leadership were working to get Norman out of the race, though they were unsure as to what his

intentions are. Norman -- who has drawn fire on ethical issues and was among the Senate Republicans breaking ranks against prison privatization in the recent legislative session -- survived a brutal primary battle with fellow Republican Kevin Ambler in 2010.

Reach Jim Turner at iturner@sunshinestatenews.com or at (772) 215-9889.

### Attachments:

- # Florida House Candidates
- **TFlorida Senate Candidates**
- □ U.S. House Candidates
- **4) U.S. Senate Candidates**

Tags: Ander Crenshaw, Chris Smith, Cliff Stearns, Jack Latvala, James Jett, Jeff Brandes, Jim Frishe, John Legg, News, Norman, Oelrich, Ted Yoho, Politics

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FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF STATE DI CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S RE			
(1) Oelrich, Steve	OFFICE USE ONLY		
Name	•		
(2) 5200 NW 42nd Street Suite 102 146			
5200 NW 43rd Street Suite 102-146  Address (number and street)	·		
· ·			
Gainesville, FL 32606 City, State, Zip Code			
CHECK IF ADDRESS HAS CHANGED	(3) ID Number: <u>54969</u>		
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Accour			
Total Monetary \$			
In-Kind \$ 0.00 Moneta	ary \$ 38,525.95		
(8) Oth	er Distributions		
	\$0.00		
	OTAL Monetary Expenditures To Date		
\$\$	107,602.44		
(11) CERTIFICATION It is a first degree misdemeanor for any person to falsify a public record (ss.839.13, F.S.)			
	that I have examined this report and it is true, and complete.		
(1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1) (1)	Name)		
	Chairperson (only for PC, PTY &		
electioneering commun.)	electioneering commun. organization)		
.1 ===	nature		

DS-DE 12 (Rev. 08.04)

### **CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S REPORT - ITEMIZED CONTRIBUTIONS**

(1) Name Oelrich. Steve (2) I.D. Number 54969
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(3) Cover Period <u>04 / 01 / 12</u> through <u>08 / 09 / 12</u> (4) Page <u>1</u> of <u>1</u>

(5)	(7)	·	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)
Date	Full Name (Last, Suffix, First, Middle) Street Address & City, State, Zip Code	C Type	ontributor Ocupation	Contribution Type	ln-kind Description	Amendment	Amount
. 04 / 20 / 12 Unfiled 1	Laface Jr, Ronald 1110 Lothian Dr Tallahassee, FL 32312		Govt Relations	REF			-500.00
04 / 23 / 12 Unfiled 2	Carl R Zooberg MD. PC 127 W Gibson St Hartwell, GA 30643	В	Medical Doctor	REF			-500.00
04 / 26 / 12 Unfiled 3	John S. Poser, M.D., P.A. 12921 SW 1st Rd Ste 219 Tioga, FL 32669	В	Medical Doctor	REF			-250.00
05 / 23 / 12 Unfiled 4	Talenfeld, Howard - 690 Leigh Palm Ave Plantation, FL 33324	1	Attorney	REF			-500.00
06 / 22 / 12 Unfiled 5	Sadove, Richard - 9227 SW 43rd Ln Gainesville, FL 32608	1	Surgeon	REF		·	-500.00
1 1							
1 1							
1 1							

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### **CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S REPORT - ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES**

(1) Name Oelrich, Steve (2) I.D. Number 54969

(3) Cover Period <u>04 / 01 / 12</u> through <u>08 / 09 / 12</u>

(4) Page \_1\_ of \_3\_

(5) Date	(7) Full Name	(8) Purpose	(9)	(10)	(11)
(6) Sequence Number	(Last, Suffix, First, Middle) Street Address & City, State, Zip Code	(add office sought if contribution to a candidate)	Expenditure Type	Amendment	Amount
04 / 02 / 12 Unfiled 1	Jacqueline Schall, LLC PO Box 330965 Atlantic Beach, FL 32233	Treasury Services	MON		450.00
04 / 03 / 12 . Unfiled 2	QGiv 53 Lake Morton Dr Ste 10 Lakeland, FL 33801	Merchant Acct Fee	MON		4.00
04 / 25 / 12 Unfiled 3	Harland Clarke 10931 Laureate Dr San Antonio, TX 78249	Check Order	MON		150,66
04 / 30 / 12 Unfiled 4	Ring Central 999 BAKER WAY, 5TH FLOOR San Mateo, CA 94404	Telephone Expense	MON		38.01
05 / 01 / 12 Unfiled 5	Jacqueline Schall, LLC PO Box 330965 Atlantic Béach, FL 32233	Treasury Services	MON		400.00
05 / 16 / 12 ·	Fed-Ex 14355 Beach Blvd Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250	Overnight Package	MON		7.65
05 / 21 / 12 Unfiled 7	Fed-Ex 14355 Beach Blvd Jacksonville Beach, FL 32250	overnight package	MON		9.78
05 / 29 / 12 Unfiled 8	Ring Central 999 BAKER WAY, 5TH FLOOR San Mateo, CA 94404	Telephone Expense	MON		38.01

DS-DE 14 (Rev. 08/03)

### **CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S REPORT - ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES**

(1) Name <u>Oelrich, Steve</u> (2) i.D. Number <u>54969</u>

(3) Cover Period 04 / 01 / 12 through 08 / 09 / 12

(4) Page 2 of 3

(5) Date	(7) Full Name	(8) Purpose	(9)	(10)	(11)
(6) Sequence Number	(Last, Suffix, First, Middle) Street Address & City, State, Zip Code	(add office sought if contribution to a candidate)	Expenditure Type	Amendment	Amount
05 / 30 / 12 Unfiled 9	Jacqueline Schall, LLC PO Box 330965 Atlantic Beach, FL 32233	Treasury Services	MON		600.00
06 / 22 / 12 Unfiled 10	Let's Get to Work Productions 4603 Eaton Pl Alexandria, VA 22310	Thank You Advertising	MON		27,000.00
06 / 22 / 12 Unfiled 11	M&S Bank 25501 NW State Rd 26 Melrose, FL 32666	Wire Fee	MON		<b>30.00</b>
06 / 25 / 12 Unfiled 12	Let's Get to Work Productions 4603 Eaton PI Alexandria, VA 22310	Thank You Advertising	MON		6,300.00
06 / 28 / 12 Unfiled 13	Ring Central 999 BAKER WAY, 5TH FLOOR San Mateo, CA 94404	Telephone Expense	MON		38.01
06 / 29 / 12 Unfiled 14	M&S Bank 25501 NW State Rd 26 Melrose, FL 32666	Bank Service Fees	MON		15.00
07 / 02 / 12 Unfiled 15	Creative Direct, LLC 25 E Main St Richmond, VA 23219	Envelopes for Thank You Advertising	MON		337.00
07 / 02 / 12 Unfiled 16	Jacqueline Schall, LLC PO Box 330965 Atlantic Beach, FL 32233	Treasury Services	MON		800.00

DS-DE 14 (Rev. 08/03)

### **CAMPAIGN TREASURER'S REPORT - ITEMIZED EXPENDITURES**

(1) Name Oelrich, Steve	(2) I.D. Number <u>54969</u>
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(3) Cover Period 04 / 01 / 12 through 08 / 09 / 12 (4) Page 3 of 3

(5)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)
Date	Full Name	Purpose	(0)	(10)	(,
(6)	(Last, Suffix, First, Middle)	(add office sought if		}	
Sequence	Street Address &	contribution to a	Expenditure	<b>.</b>	_
Number	City, State, Zip Code	candidate)	Туре	Amendment	Amount
07 / 20 / 12 Unfiled 17	Let's Get to Work Productions 4603 Eaton Pl Alexandria, VA 22310	Thank You Advertising	MON		1,800.00
07 / 20 / 12 Unfiled 18	M&S Bank 25501 NW State Rd 26 Melrose, FL 32666	Wire Fee	MÓN		30,00
07 / 20 / 12 Unfiled 19	Office Depot 11824 Atlantic Blvd # 300 Jacksonville, FL 32225	Labels for thank you advertising	MON		12.83
07 / 20 / 12 · Unfiled 20	USPS 1001 Mayport Rd Atlantic Beach, FL 32233	Postage for thank you advertising	MON		450.00
07 / 31 / 12 Unfiled 21	M&S Bank 25501 NW State Rd 26 Melrose, FL 32666	Bank Service Charges	MON		15.00
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<i>l I</i>					
		AFF OF LEGGE COD IN	<del></del>	<u></u>	<del></del>

DS-DE 14 (Rev. 08/03)

DS-DE 94 (Rev. 08/03)

SEE REVERSE FOR INSTRUCTIONS AND CODE VALUES



# FEDERAL ELECTION COMMISSION 999 E Street, NW Washington, DC 20463

## STATEMENT OF DESIGNATION OF COUNSEL Please use one form for each Respondent/Entity/Treasurer FAX (202) 219-3923

MUR #6601		
NAME OF COUNSEL:	Scott Thomas	
FIRM:	Dickstein Shapiro LLP	
ADDRESS:	1825 Eye Street NW	<del></del>
	Washington, D.C. 20006	
TELEPHONE-	OFFICE ( <u>. 202</u> ) 420-2200	<del></del> .
	FAX ( 202) 420-2201	
The above-name authorized to receive a to act on my behalf before \$\\ \cdot \c	ny notifications and other co	reby designated as my counsel and is mmunications from the Commission and Candidate
	ondent/Agent -Signature	Title(Treasurer/Candidate/Owner)
NAMED RESPONDENT	: Steve Oelrich	
MAILING ADDRESS: (Please Print)	5200 NW 43rd Street, Su	ite 102-151
	Gainesville, FL 32606	
TELEPHONE	· HOME (	<del></del>

Information is being sought as part of an investigation being conducted by the Federal Election Commission and the confidentiality provisions of 2 U.S.C. § 437g(a)(12)(A) apply. This section prohibits making public any investigation conducted by the Federal Election Commission without the express written consent of the person under investigation